

Joint AgNER Appropriations Committees
Follow-up to February 27 Presentations on DWI and DEMLR
February 28, 2019

Water Infrastructure

1. Does DEQ have a record of breaches and discharges from Florence?

Wastewater Systems were divided into two categories: Bypasses (after the water entered the facility) and Sanitary Sewer Overflows (somewhere along the way, before the water enters the facility). There were 80 Bypasses at 61 facilities, 66.8 million gallons of water total. 61.6 million gallons of that total went to surface waters. There were 516 Sanitary Sewer Overflows at 149 systems, adding up to 54.9 million gallons total and 54.6 million gallons of that total went to surface waters. There were 6 lagoon breaches, 32 lagoons overtopped, and 10 lagoons inundated.

2. What's the capital need for the smaller utilities?

DEQ is still working on this information and will provide it as soon as it is available.

3. What were the results of testing of waters post-Florence?

DEQ conducted increased sampling at ambient stations in the areas affected by the hurricane. Sampling was conducted every two weeks for around two months following Florence. We also conducted sampling at Duke's Sutton Plant (Wilmington) and H.F. Lee Plant (Goldsboro) to assess the impacts of flooding on the coal ash impoundments. A Florence sampling summary report is currently in progress and should be ready in 2-3 weeks. They will provide that when it's complete.

The Collaboratory has five ongoing research projects related to Hurricane Florence water sampling. The results are not complete yet but will be provided when they are done. Copies of the research agreement and the Collaboratory's more detailed response are available on the Committee's website in today's meeting folder.

DEMLR

4. What were the fee collections and use of cash balance for Sedimentation fee over the last five years.

Five Year Sedimentation Fee History				
Fiscal Year	Beginning Cash Balance	Requirements	Receipts	Ending Cash Balance
FY 2014-15	\$79,881	\$930,442	\$1,439,264	\$588,702
FY 2015-16	\$588,702	\$972,753	\$1,751,538	\$1,367,487
FY 2016-17	\$1,367,487	\$1,523,330	\$1,505,806	\$1,349,963
FY 2017-18	\$1,349,963	\$1,303,382	\$1,924,704	\$1,971,285
FY 2018-19*	\$1,971,285	\$1,744,770	\$1,744,770	\$1,971,285
<i>*Authorized Budget, February 2019</i>				
<i>Source: BD 701</i>				

DEQ is planning to use the current cash balance for a new database management system in the current fiscal year.